



**Ontario Amateur Wrestling Association**

**Procedures for Obtaining Sanction for Events**

**or for permission to have OAWA members  
participate in school events**

**and**

**Guidelines/Standards for Sanctioned Events**



# Ontario Amateur Wrestling Association

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Telephone: (416) 426-7274 Fax: (416) 426-7343

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## Ontario Amateur Wrestling Association Event Sanctioning and Insurance Program

Please note: this is a summarized version of the OAWA Event Sanctioning Policy Manual. In case of disagreement between this summary and the full manual, the information in the latter will apply

**Updated October 1, 2009**

In response to requests from member clubs at the 2008 OAWA Annual General Meeting, the OAWA is working to clarify our Event Sanctioning and Insurance programs.

Clubs: What does your OAWA insurance cover you for?:

- Regular Training programs (practices, etc.).
- Use of Facilities (rental/other) – proof of insurance certificates available upon request, to request an insurance certificate, please go to the OAWA web site: 'About OAWA/Forms' section.
- Travel to and participation in OAWA Sanctioned Events – see Information on Sanctioned Events section below.

**Please note that this insurance is for OAWA member clubs which are training and participating in amateur wrestling styles as recognized by the Canadian Amateur Wrestling Association. This includes Freestyle Wrestling (both men and women), Greco-Roman Wrestling (men only) and Grappling (men and women).**

**Clubs need to be aware that if they participate in any activity beyond amateur wrestling that they do so at their own risk as the OAWA membership insurance is void in these cases. Of course, there are activities which are acceptable for use in cross-training for amateur wrestling (running, swimming, for example). These are generally commonly referred to in coaching instruction manuals. However, this does not include instruction of or competition/participation in other combative activities such as Judo, Jiu Jitsu, and so on. In particular, any participation in Mixed Martial Arts, or what is currently being referred to as "Ultimate Fighting" or any other related combatives activity nullifies your OAWA Insurance coverage. If you are unsure, please consult OAWA for confirmation of what are and are not approved activities.**

Sanctioned Events:

The following types of events are those that OAWA membership and insurance covers members for participation in:

- OAWA Provincial Championships
- CAWA National Championships
- Events hosted outside Ontario which are sanctioned by the recognized Wrestling PSO in that Province/Territory (recognized PSO = recognized by CAWA).
- OAWA Regional Championships.
  - *Note: Where the Regional Championships is also a High School Event, OAWA Sanction is extended only for members of OAWA member clubs participating on behalf of their club. Where athletes are competing for their High School, their High School should extend coverage as **OAWA Insurance Does not apply.***
- Lastly, events that contact OAWA requesting Sanction and which require OAWA Memberships to participate in the event can be Sanctioned.

## School Events - New for 2009-2010

In an effort to both satisfy Government requirements and still provide service coverage to our members, the following will apply for High School Events:

- OAWA member clubs may participate in High School Events which take place under the guidelines/rules as laid out by the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations (OFSAA). OAWA is extending this opportunity since OFSAA is a recognized Multi-Sport Organization (MSO) by the Government of Ontario/Ministry of Health Promotion.
- To allow OAWA clubs to participate in their events, the High School Convenor must:
  - Contact the OAWA to request this, at least 60 days prior to their event.
  - Confirm that the event is a high school event running under OAWA guidelines and CAWA rules with approved OFSAA safety modifications.
  - Meet minimum standards for events:
    - Use only certified wrestling officials
    - Employ a Skin Check
    - Use a weight verification system
    - Use the recognized CAWA rules with the approved OFSAA modifications.
  - Upon confirming the above standards will be in place, the Convenor will be informed by OAWA that OAWA members may participate in their event.
  - Following the event, the Convenor is asked to send the OAWA:
    - Full copy of the event results
    - Copy of the weight verification sheet(s)
    - Copy of pre-event checklists signed by the event head official.

The OAWA anticipates that offering this opportunity may only be for the 2009-2010 wrestling season. More stringent event sanctioning guidelines are being developed in consultation with the Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion.

Please Note:

- *OAWA Membership insurance coverage is extended only for members of OAWA member clubs participating with their club. Where athletes are competing for their High School, their High School should extend coverage as **OAWA Insurance does not apply.***
- *If athletes are attending High School Competitions with their Club, this should be with the knowledge and permission of the event convenor. Clubs are advised to obtain the permission of the athlete's school to attend.*

<p><b>Please note: this is a summarized version of the OAWA Event Sanctioning Policy Manual. In case of disagreement between this summary and the full manual, the information in the latter will apply. The OAWA reserves the right to update this document at any time as required.</b></p>
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# Event Sanctioning

The Ontario Amateur Wrestling Association is the Provincial Sport Organization for all styles of Amateur Wrestling as recognized by the Government of Ontario (Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion).

Events Sanctioned by the OAWA run under the standards for event hosting as set out by the OAWA in these guidelines. To be sanctioned by the OAWA, the event must follow these guidelines, including ensuring that **all participants in these events (Coaches, athletes, officials, event organizers) are members in good standing of the Ontario Amateur Wrestling Association.**

The OAWA encourages OAWA member Clubs to host sanctioned events to ensure these events are covered through the OAWA Liability Insurance program.

The OAWA also recognizes that some School based events may also wish to allow for the participation of OAWA member clubs. These events will not be considered as sanctioned by the OAWA, but the Association will permit its members to participate in these events if the event hosts meet a minimum standard of care in the hosting of the event. To be eligible to have OAWA members participate in their event under the OAWA, the event must run under the guidance and guidelines of a government of Ontario recognized Multi-Sport Organization (MSO) such as the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations (OFSAA). For events such as these, run under the rules/guidelines of these MSO's, the OAWA recommends that students participate as part of their school, not on behalf of their club.

**Note: Where OFSAA rules and regulations do not permit participation by Club members OFSAA rules are to be respected.**

To assist with this process, this document has been produced both to outline the process for obtaining sanction for events, and also to clearly outline what is expected of sanctioned events.

Written requests for sanctions are required for all events where registered OAWA Members are participating as members. All requests for Sanction are to be made using the OAWA Request for Event Sanction Form and sent to the OAWA office as noted. **NOTE THAT THERE IS A PENALTY FEE FOR LATE REQUESTS.**

Clubs are pre-sanctioned for: routine club activity such as weekly training/practices, fundraising programs and other routine club activities. Clubs are not sanctioned for any activities (eg. banquets) involving alcohol.

Sanction forms are available on the OAWA website or from the OAWA office and, after completed are to be returned to the office.

Please note:

- **PLEASE SUBMIT REQUESTS FOR EVENT SANCTION OR PERMISSION TO HAVE OAWA MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN SCHOOL EVENTS AT LEAST SIXTY DAYS IN ADVANCE OF YOUR EVENT. SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED LATE WILL BE SUBJECT TO A LATE FEE.**

- It is the responsibility of the Club President to request sanction from OAWA for an event they are hosting.
- For Event Sanction Requests, please include a Copy of the event information flyer.
- It is the responsibility of the event convenor for a School/OFSAA level event. OAWA Clubs may contact OAWA or the School/OFSAA level event convenor to ensure this has been done.
- These applications are legally binding contracts, please read them carefully!
- Clubs will be notified if their request has been granted by email and a copy will be kept in the OAWA office.
- Events granted Sanction by OAWA must include the following on their promotional materials (brochure, web-site, etc.):
  - ❖ "This event is sanctioned by the Ontario Amateur Wrestling Association (OAWA), the OAWA is the provincially recognized Provincial Sport Organization for Wrestling as recognized by the Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion".
- Following your event, please return the following to the OAWA:
- Full competition results
- Completed pre-event competition hosting guideline checklist (these will be provided to successful event sanction applicants).
- Weigh-in or weight-verification lists (as appropriate – see guidelines)

If you have any questions about registration items, contact  
Tim MaGarrey at the OAWA office:

(416)426-7274 [admin@oawa.ca](mailto:admin@oawa.ca)



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## 2009-2010 School event request to allow OAWA members to participate

### A. Applicant Information:

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (day): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

### B. General Event Information:

Event Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Location (city): \_\_\_\_\_ Event Date(s): \_\_\_\_\_

### Detailed Event Information (check all that apply):

- Event will use Certified Officials – list head official: \_\_\_\_\_
- Event will use weight verification as follows (check one):
  - Random weight checks \_\_\_\_\_
  - Full weigh-in \_\_\_\_\_
- All Club participants will be OAWA members.
- For this type of event, please confirm that the School/school board have been notified that OAWA Members are participating  
yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_  
(check one)
- Event will be hosted according to OAWA Event Hosting Recommendations for School events: Use only certified officials, employ a skin check, and employ a weight verification system.
- Event will be hosted under rules as outlined by the Canadian Amateur Wrestling Association, including approved OFSAA rule modifications where applicable.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*I hereby request that the event be cleared for participation by members of the Ontario Amateur Wrestling Association*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Position*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

### OAWA use only:

Event Sanction is: \_\_\_\_\_ Granted \_\_\_\_\_ Rejected

Confirmed by: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



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## 2009-2010 Sanction Request Application

For use by Clubs running OAWA Club events

### C. Applicant Information:

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_  
Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (day): \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

### D. General Event Information:

Event Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Location (city): \_\_\_\_\_ Event Date(s): \_\_\_\_\_

### Detailed Event Information (check all that apply):

- Event will use Certified Officials – list head official: \_\_\_\_\_
- Event will use weight verification as follows (check one):  
Random weight checks \_\_\_\_\_  
Full weigh-in \_\_\_\_\_
- For Full Sanction events, all Participants will be OAWA members.
- Event will be hosted according to OAWA Event Hosting Guidelines
- Event will be hosted under rules as outlined by the Canadian Amateur Wrestling Association, including approved OAWA rule and safety modifications where applicable.

I hereby request that the event described above receive sanction from the Ontario Amateur Wrestling Association. I am aware that this request obligates me to follow the OAWA guidelines and requirements for hosting this event. I am aware that this is a legally binding contract between the Ontario Amateur Wrestling Association and me and that by failing to abide by the conditions set out herein I may be subject to disciplinary action by OAWA.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE NOTE: I REQUIRE A THIRD PARTY CERTIFICATE FROM OAWA FOR INSURANCE PURPOSES. Name of Party(ies) to be named on the certificate (School Board, Community Centre, etc.):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### OAWA use only:

Event Sanction is: \_\_\_\_\_ Granted \_\_\_\_\_ Rejected

Confirmed by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name Signature Date

# Tournament Hosting Guidelines for Hosting an OAWA Sanctioned Event

## MEMBERSHIP

For OAWA Sanctioned events, all participants must be current members in good standing of the OAWA. Convenors are asked to ensure that all participants participating as a school team member are participating with the permission of their school and that the event host school's School Board is aware that OAWA members are participating under their club. **OAWA Clubs are responsible for ensuring that all club members participating in such events are current OAWA members.**

## HEAD OFFICIAL

To be an OAWA Sanctioned event, the competition must have a Head Official. For Provincial level events, the Head Official will be appointed by the Ontario Amateur Wrestling Officials' Association. For local events, the event will have a head official appointed by the local Area Chairman of the Ontario Amateur Wrestling Officials' Association. To find out the Area Chairman for your area, contact the OAWA.

The Head Official is responsible for ensuring that a sufficient number of trained officials are available to officiate the event. The Head Official will also negotiate the cost and other details for the officiating team (accommodations, meals, etc. as required).

**ALL OFFICIALS WORKING OAWA SANCTIONED EVENTS MUST BE CERTIFIED AND CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE OAWA/ONTARIO AMATEUR WRESTLING OFFICIALS' ASSOCIATION.**

## FINAL REPORT

Following the sanctioned competition, the Convenor and/or Head Official area responsible for providing the following to the OAWA within 30 days of the conclusion of the event:

- Full events Results
- Copy, weigh-in or weight verification sheets for event.
- Copy of injury reports from the event
- Copy of the pre-tournament check-list, signed by Convenor and Head Official.

## VENUE

The Head-Official and the Domestic Development Manager are responsible for a safe competitive area. If this is not the case, the competition will be halted at their discretion until the problem is rectified.

The venue must provide for adequate space for all competition surfaces and allow for adequate protection area outside the competition circle on each mat, and also allow for enough space between mats.

Mats should not be placed in such a way that the competition circles are too close – a metre apart is a suggested bare minimum, two metres preferred. The mats must also not have any dangerous projections or objects nearby – pillars, bleachers, and so on.

Again, ensure there is enough space to protect athlete leaving the mats to be sure they don't run into nearby walls, pillars, bleachers, or other such objects/obstructions.

Every effort should be made to set the venue up to allow enough room for spectators to stay well back from the competition areas (mats). This both to avoid athletes leaving the mat during the action of a match to hit spectators, but also to allow the medical staff and other tournament personnel an unblocked view of the mats.

## WEIGH-INS

Depending on the type of weigh-in used (either a full weigh-in on site or a remote weigh-in with on-site random verification, there must be some form of weight verification used. Convenors are required to provide copies of their weigh-in or weight verification forms to OAWA with their final results.

## **WEIGHT LOSS**

Convenors are reminded of the OAWA and CAWA Excess Weight Loss Policies. These Policies are to be followed at all OAWA Sanctioned events.

For a copy of the OAWA Excess weight loss policy, please go to the Policies section of the OAWA web site ([www.oawa.ca](http://www.oawa.ca)).

The CAWA policy is noted in the CAWA Rulebook. The following is an excerpt:

“The use of plastic bags, saunas or any form of artificial weight loss is strictly prohibited at the Bantam Festivals and Cadet/Juvenile National Championships.....”

## **MATS**

All mats used for the competition should be wrestling mats manufactured for wrestling and in good repair. Mats should be inspected to ensure they are in good repair, with no pieces missing. For competitions, mat sections should be joined using mat tape or a like product.

For health purposes, the Organizing Committee is responsible for washing the mats with a 10% bleach solution prior to the event, at the end of each day for multiple day events, and between wrestling sessions if applicable. Volunteers should be recruited to perform this task. Each mat should have a supply of bleach/water (10% bleach) in a spray bottle (if volunteers are cleaning blood off of the mats, rubber gloves are recommended).

There must be an adequate protection area around each mat.

The gym must be laid out in such a way as to allow for good visibility for the spectators and to allow for adequate crowd control, and lastly to allow Medical Staff an adequate view of the competition areas.

As part of the pre-event inspection, the Head Official and Convenor shall inspect all mats. Any concerns are to be addressed before the competition is allowed to start.

## **OTHER FACILITY RELATED ISSUES:**

The following should also be available:

- A lockable changing room for the appropriate number of officials.
- Access to a telephone for Medical personnel.
- A designated area for the pairing masters with the appropriate number of tables and chairs and office equipment.

## **MEDICAL SUPPORT**

The OAWA encourages all tournament convenors to have trained medical personnel on hand. Suggestions:

### **Open /Local Events**

Volunteer with emergency medical training (St. John's Ambulance training, Red Cross First Aid Training, etc.). As an alternative, a volunteer with medical training (off duty nurse, ambulance personnel, paramedic, for example).

### **Provincial Championships**

A trained Athletic Therapist or Therapists.

### **National Championships**

Trained Athletic Therapist(s) under the guidance of a Medical Doctor.

## **RULES**

The rules for OAWA Sanctioned events are those outlined in the current CAWA rule book. Rule modifications as endorsed either by the OAWA or OFSAA for school events being sanctioned are acceptable.